PROCUREMENT OF PADDY

368. Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) in acquiring paddy by the Government what amount of paddy is given deduction to the owners of paddy for their own consumption ;

(*b*) previous to this harvest whether any deductions used to be given for the use of the domestic servants ;

(*c*) whether that deduction for domestic servants has been disallowed during this harvest ?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education)*:

(*a*) To a family having paddy income paddy allowance for domestic consumption is made at the rate of 3 paras per adult and 1½ paras per child per month.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

2. Adjournment Motions

Mr. President: Notices of adjournment motions are received. One notice from Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan for the adjournment of the business of the House for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance to wit the extremely serious situation arising out of the strained relationship between toddy shop owners and toddy-tappers, now extending to over two months.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, I have left off one word "at Anthicad" in the notice.

Mr. President: It is a very serious omission.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Yes, Sir, it is a very serious omission. At Anthicad" must be inserted. Otherwise, the whole matter will become meaningless.

Mr. President: Yes, it may be inserted. I think the practice of the House in such matters is that notice for adjournment motion should reach the President the first day before the sitting and there is a ruling to that effect given sometime ago by the President. I refer to the ruling given on 10th December 1945 by the President of that time.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I may be kindly heard, Sir, on this question. If there is a ruling, as I find there is one, that will be seen to be a solitary instance of a ruling which was given in contravention to the rules pertaining thereto because the expression used in the appropriate sections is not "meeting" but "sitting". As far as this meeting is concerned the last meeting of the legislative session of 1122 extends from yesterday to Saturday both days inclusive while yesterday we had a sitting, to-day we have a sitting and to-morrow we will have another sitting and all these five days a sitting. The expression used in the books being "sitting" and not "meeting" an adjournment motion can be given notice of before the business of the day on which notice is given is taken up. On any day of a meeting each day to be considered a sitting, an adjournment motion can be given notice of. What I, therefore, submit to the Chair is that a bad precedent need not and should not be respected when we are here to break such bad precedents and lay down hea thy ones. Therefore, I submit that the ruling given under peculiar circumstances as will be seen from the context there,—I am quite aware of it—must not be considered a healthy precedent of this House. Your kind attention, Sir, may be drawn to that fact and old things done wrongly may be attemped to be set right at the earliest possible date.

Mr. President: What is the distinction the Hon'ble Member draws between the words 'sitting and meeting'. Will the Hon'ble Member kindly point out the Rule or the Section of the Act?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Yes, Sir, I will read it out. It is not very diffi ult. The only condition is "before the business of the day is entered upon" and I have satisfied that condition, not before the business of the meeting is entered upon the meeting in contra-distinction to the distinct days or sittings constituting the meeting.

Mr. President: Under that section, I presnme a ruling was given by the President on a former occasion.

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